

Coins

Carelessness turns a \$2 bill into a treasure

By Roger Boye

THANKS TO sloppy work at a post office, at least one Palos Heights collector has an unusual "first-day-of-issue \$2 bill."

The collector writes that she put stamps on three \$2 bills, and took the bills to the post office to have the stamps canceled. It was April 13, the day the \$2 bills were first put into circulation.

However, the stamps and bills were canceled with the date of April 12 and are a better collector's item than bills canceled "April 13."

WANT TO LEARN about history? Make new friends? Have fun?

Then collect and study coins, advises the recipient of an American Numismatic Association

[ANA] seminar scholarship, Robert E. Juliano Jr., 12, of Chicago.

Juliano was the Illinois winner of an essay competition for youths sponsored by the ANA and the Franklin Mint Corp. He was in Colorado Springs last week studying coin grading, with expenses paid by the scholarship.

"I started collecting a few years ago after talking with two of my father's friends who were coin collectors," said Juliano, who is an ANA member and attends Hardey Preparatory School for Boys in Chicago.

The scholarship winner from Indiana is Geoffrey G. Slaughter, 13, of Crown Point, and the Wisconsin winner is Stanton W. Schmidt, 15, of Wild Rose.

The more than 1,000 scholarship contestants nationally had to write essays on "Why I am a collector," Forty-four scholarships were awarded nationwide.

ENTHUSIASM for the Bicentennial has helped the United States Mint sell a record 4.1 million six-coin proof sets this year.

The previous high was 3.95 million sets in 1964. Orders are no longer being accepted for the 1976-dated six-coin sets.

MORE THAN 20,000 collectors and 200 dealers are expected to attend the country's premier coin collector meeting—the ANA annual convention, to be held this year from Aug. 24 to 29 in New York City's Americana Hotel.